

## Summer Sunday

What began as a prelude to the Bicentennial has bloomed into a perennial prelude to summer in Norwell.

But Sunday Round the Common, which will mark its fifth year July 1, also has come to attract neighbors from Hanover, Scituate, Hingham, Cohasset, Marshfield and environs.

The lure is a day of old-fashioned fair-atmosphere and fun — an aura carefully nurtured by the sponsoring Chamber of Commerce so cognizant of the motif it restricts sale of alcoholic beverages to only the reservation-only supper.

It's a family day which means lots of things for the kids, and the setting is so attuned.

An ecumenical service at 11 a.m. opens 'The Sunday' at historic First Parish Church.

No such festivity would be complete without a parade. And there is one starting at noon from United Church of Christ on Rte. 123 (Main St.) with the line of march East down Rte. 123 to the Center Common.

The parade is perhaps best described as homey rather than sophisticated in keeping with the Bicentennial motif which spawned the affair.

There are bands...floats...horsebackers gaily decorated like their mounts...bikes also decked out to a



fair-thee-well...fire trucks with sirens a-wail...antique cars, polished and nostalgic with horns honking squeakily...Scouts...4Hers...and, of course, a politico or two since, after all, who can resist a parade?

The Center and surrounding areas then become the scene for activities all day long, not the least of which is the opportunity to meet old friends, both from in-town and out, and make new ones.

There are band concerts on the Common green...booths all over the place offering everything from a side variety of festive food and drink to painted tattoos, balloons, plants, arts and crafts, mementos and much more.

Frivolity includes the many games...a dunking booth...dart games...pony and haywagon rides...and under Recreation Department auspices, two solid hours of games oriented for children.

Part of the fun is the raffle with over 100 prizes including the piece de resistance this year — a Moped and a canoe.

The supper — as stated, by reservation only — this year features a clambake/lobster feed under a gay tent in the shadow of First Parish's ancient spire.

And in the early evening, there is a street square dance before the curtain finally falls on a day right out of yesteryear.

It is a Sunday to remember.



Photo by Greg Derr

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